

Apply Now for Summer and Fall 2007!

The Centennial Center for Political Science and Public Affairs is quickly becoming an invaluable resource to political and social scientists. Since its opening in September 2003, the Center has hosted more than 70 scholars. The Center, housed in the APSA headquarters near Dupont Circle, provides a great base of operations for scholars researching in the DC metro area. The Center offers Visiting Scholars furnished work space, telephone, fax, computers, Internet access, conference space, a reference library, and access to George Washington University's Gelman Library.

Visiting Scholar stays range from a few days to 12 months. Space is limited to APSA members and is available for faculty members, post-doctoral fellows, and advanced graduate students from the U.S. and abroad. Scholars are expected to cover their own expenses and a modest facilities fee for the use of the Center.

Prospective visiting scholars may apply at any time. Positions are awarded on a space-available basis. Full details on the Center and the Visiting Scholars Program, including an application form, can be found online at www.apsanet.org/centennialcenter. You may also contact Brian Daniels at APSA: 202-483-2512; bdaniels@apsanet.org.

Research Funding Available

The APSA sponsors a number of funds to help finance research. Many of these funds can support your stay at the Centennial Center or elsewhere.

Rita Mae Kelly Fund

Supports research on the intersection of gender, race, ethnicity, and political power.

Warren E. Miller Fellowship for Electoral Politics

Provides supplemental support for research residencies in national and comparative electoral politics at the Centennial Center.

The Presidency Research Fund

Provides supplemental support for examination of the presidency for both resident and non-resident scholars.

Special Fund for the Study of Women and Politics

Provides supplemental support for the study of women and politics.

Ed Artinian Endowment for Advancing Publishing

Provides supplemental support to assist young scholars in publishing their research.

Fund for Latino Scholarship

Provides support to individuals or programs that promote the recruitment, retention, and promotion of Latino and Latina political scientists.

James Bryce Fund for International Political Science

Provides supplemental support for research residencies, collaborative research workshops, and teaching and curriculum development programs for emerging political science communities.

InProfile

Takeshi Akiba

Takeshi's personal history and academic interest has converged into his dissertation project, which explores how citizenship has evolved in the U.S., from citizenships of different states into the citizenship of the nation. And he feels extremely lucky to be where he is now: after 20 years and a continent away from his childhood home, he is finally able to revisit his memories, this time as a visiting scholar at the Centennial Center doing archival research in the area.

Takeshi was born in the U.S. and grew up in Gaithersburg, Maryland. He returned with his family to Japan when he was 11, but his interest in America remained strong; he majored in public law at Waseda University, Tokyo, writing his Master's thesis about the American Constitution and the 1924 immigration law (which excluded Japanese from emigrating to the U.S.).

He is now a Ph.D. candidate in the Jurisprudence and Social Policy program at the University of California, Berkeley.

His dissertation explores how the boundaries of citizenship in the U.S. were, until recently, drawn at the state rather than the federal level. In many areas where citizenship mattered (and matters today)—control of immigration, control of state resources, of voting rights, social rights, etc.—individual states

Takeshi Akiba



defined who counted as citizens and granted (or withheld) rights accordingly. Takeshi is interested in how this arrangement broke down; his hypothesis is that increased population mobility and accompanying disputes between people who moved around and locals who tried to limit them raised political and legal stakes high enough that constitutional adjustments had to be made.

He focuses on several periods in American history to examine this constitutional evolution. While at the Center, he is looking at the period between 1830 and 1850, focusing on several states where such tensions became significant. This includes Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania, which had to deal with Blacks alternating between slavery and partial citizenship statuses as they crossed state borders, as well as New York and Massachusetts, which had to deal with cross-Atlantic migration and the question of which rights should be granted foreigners. Using the Center as his base, he is gathering sources at the metro area's state archives. He wants to know how disputes arose and were handled by state legislatures and executives as well as by the courts, and how they were discussed in newspapers and political pamphlets at the local level.

It is an undertaking that allows him to turn his own struggles with mobility, inclusion, and exclusion from a burden into an asset, heavily intertwined with U.S. social history.